

are working and endeavor to fulfill the response and the wishes of the people of Nebraska to accomplish. Now if Senator Maresh were sincere, or was sincere he would have come up with this proposition which is not at all compatible with LB 818 as an alternate piece of legislation. Senator Maresh, I think, is thinking solely and completely in the area of litter. The bottle bill is much broader than litter. The major purpose between, and the one thing that is probably misnamed is the name of this bill, it's an energy bill. It's primary thrust is conservation of energy. We all know, we all should know if we read the paper, if we fill our gas tanks up with gas, what is happening to petroleum products in this country. If anybody has looked at what the dollar has done in the last several years, and watched this plummet of devaluation, especially in the last two or three months, they'd be aware of the seriousness of the situation. The problem is we've got a finite resource in petroleum. Now for this state, for this country, or for anyone to continue to advocate a policy or a product that is a throw away, to me, is totally unconscionable. How can we.... We would no more think of going down the road, throwing out coal, or portions of oil, it would be something we wouldn't even conceive of. But that is exactly what we're doing when we throw away a can or a bottle. The litter part of it, that is just a nice, positive side effect. I think that we're missing the boat totally if we're not concentrating or zeroing in on the main purpose, the main thrust, the main *raison d'etre* of this particular piece of legislation and that is the conservation of energy. Some how this country, this state is going to have to take this issue seriously. We've heard all kinds of pro agricultural arguments. I don't know of an industry in the State of Nebraska more energy intensive than agriculture. But yet in an agricultural state, like Nebraska, we will not take one small step toward conservation of that energy and do away with the convenience, like a throw away can or a throw away bottle. The spring of the year is coming. I think when we see that the ditches are burned out then it becomes very obvious the vast amount of cans and bottles, each representing so many BTU's of energy. Senator Maresh's amendment is ill-conceived. It diverts the major thrust of this specific bill. To be diverted at a time when Rome is burning, is to be imprudent in our duties and our responsibilities as legislators and representatives of the people of Nebraska. I think that we very definitely and very decisively should vote down the Maresh amendment. If you don't want to vote for LB 818, for whatever reason you don't want to vote for it, I think that is fine, then vote it up or down. I would be agreeable to abide by the wishes. But to divert the attention of the people through subterfuge, like the Maresh amendment is attempting to do, is not in the scope or the intent of this particular bill.

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Brennan, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR BRENNAN: The time was a point of personal privilege. The man isn't speaking on the amendment. He's speaking on the bill.

SENATOR MARVEL: Okay. Senator Koch, do you wish to be recognized on the Maresh amendment?